

CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended): A pet chew, comprising:

a shaft;

a first member rotatably mounted on said shaft around an axis of rotation;

a second member rotatably mounted on said shaft around said axis of rotation;

[means for mounting the first member and the second member in a rotatable orientation , wherein the first member and the second member are rotatable relative to one another around an axis of rotation;]

a plurality of scrubbing elements collectively mounted on a first substantial planar surface of the first member; [and]

a plurality of scrubbing elements collectively mounted on a substantial first planar [first] surface of the second member;

wherein the first surface of the first member and the first surface of the second member are generally perpendicular to [and cut across] the axis of rotation;

wherein said first surface of said first member and said first surface of said and second member completely face each other; and

a hub associated with at least one of said members and dimensioned to space said members axially to maintain a selected distance between said members during rotation.

2 (CANCELLED)

3 (CANCELLED)

4 (CANCELLED)

5 (CANCELLED)

6 (CANCELLED)

7 (Currently Amended): The pet chew of claim [5] 1, wherein the hub [spacing means] comprises [a hub formed of] a raised portion of at least one of the first surface of the first member and the first surface of the second member.

8 (Currently Amended): The pet chew of claim [3] 1, further comprising retaining means for retaining the first member and the second member on the shaft.

9 (Original): The pet chew of claim 1, wherein the first member is a first circular disk and the second member is a second circular disk.

10 (Original): The pet chew of claim 9, further comprising at least one additional scrubbing element mounted on at least one of: (a) an outer circumferential surface of the first disk; and (b) an outer circumferential surface of the second disk.

11 (Original): The pet chew of claim 1, wherein each of the scrubbing elements is adapted to scrub at least one of: (a) a tooth; and (b) a gum.

12 (CANCELLED)

13 (Original): The pet chew of claim 1, wherein the scrubbing elements are mounted on said surfaces of said members in rows.

14 (Original): The pet chew of claim 13, wherein the scrubbing elements are mounted in offset rows.

15 (Original): The pet chew of claim 9, wherein said scrubbing elements are mounted in circular rows along said surfaces.

16 (Currently Amended). A pet chew, comprising:

a plurality of circular disks, wherein each of the disks includes a substantially flat

obverse surface, a substantially flat reverse surface, and an outer circumferential surface;

means for mounting the disks in a rotatable orientation, wherein the disks are rotatable relative to one another around an axis of rotation substantially perpendicular to both the obverse surface and reverse surface of each said disk; [and]

a plurality of scrubbing elements mounted on at least one of the obverse surface and the reverse surface of each disk;

wherein the obverse surfaces of each said disk completely face each other; and a hub associated with one of said discs and positioned to space said discs at a predetermined distance from each other.

17(CANCELLED)

18 (CANCELLED)

19 (Original): The pet chew of claim 16, wherein the means for mounting includes a shaft.

20 (Original): The pet chew of claim 19, wherein each disk is mounted on the shaft.

21 (CANCELLED)

22 (Currently Amended): The pet chew of claim [21] 16, wherein [the spacing means comprises a] said hub is disposed between one of the obverse surface and the reverse surface of one disk and one of the obverse surface and the reverse surface of another disk.

23 (Currently Amended): The pet chew of claim [21] 16, wherein [the spacing means comprises a] said hub is formed of a raised portion of at least one of the obverse surface and the reverse surface of one disk.

24 (Original): The pet chew of claim 19, further comprising retaining means for retaining the disks on the shaft.

25 (Original): The pet chew of claim 16, further comprising at least one additional scrubbing element mounted on the outer circumferential surface of at least one of the disks.

26 (Original): The pet chew of claim 16, wherein each of the scrubbing elements is adapted to scrub at least one of: (a) a tooth; and (b) a gum.

27 (Original): The pet chew of claim 16, wherein the number of disks is in the range of 1 to 16.

28 (Original): The pet chew of claim 16, wherein the scrubbing elements mounted on at least one of the obverse surface and the reverse surface of at least one disk are mounted in circular rows.

29 (Original): The pet chew of claim 28, wherein the scrubbing elements in at least one row are offset from the scrubbing elements in at least another row.

30 (Original): The pet chew of claim 28, wherein the number of rows is in the range of 1 to 16.

31 (Original): The pet chew of claim 16, wherein said plurality of circular disks define a ball shaped configuration.

32 (Currently Amended): A method of providing dental care to a pet having teeth, comprising:

mounting a first member of a pet chew and a second member of the pet chew in a rotatable orientation, wherein the first member and the second member are rotatable relative to one another around an axis of rotation;

collectively mounting a plurality of scrubbing elements on a first substantially planar surface of the first member; and

collectively mounting a plurality of scrubbing elements on a first substantially planar surface of the second member;

wherein the first surface of the first member and the first surface of the second member are generally perpendicular to [and cut across] the axis of rotation and wherein said surfaces completely face each other; and

wherein movement, during chewing of the pet chew by the pet, by at least one tooth of the pet against at least one of: (a) at least one of the scrubbing elements; (b) the first member; and (c) the second member causes the first member and the second member to rotate relative to one another, said members being spaced from each other at a predetermined distance selected to insure that during chewing, said tooth fits between and is cleaned by said two members.

33 (Currently Amended): A method of providing dental care to a pet having teeth, comprising:

mounting a plurality of circular disks in a rotatable orientation, wherein the disks are rotatable relative to one another around an axis of rotation, said circular discs being spaced from each other by a hub to maintain a predetermined distance between said disks during rotation; and

mounting a plurality of scrubbing elements on at least one of a substantially flat obverse surface and a substantially flat reverse surface of each disk, the obverse and

reverse surfaces of each said disk being substantially perpendicular to said axis of rotation and said obverse surfaces completely facing one another;

wherein movement, during chewing of the pet chew by the pet, by at least one tooth of the pet against at least one of: (a) at least one of the scrubbing elements; and (b) at least one of the disks causes the disks to rotate relative to one another.

34 (Previously Presented): The pet chews of claim 1, wherein the scrubbing elements mounted on said first surface of the first member are in facing relationship to the scrubbing elements mounted on the first surface of the second member.

35 (Previously Presented): The pet chews of claim 16, wherein the obverse surface of one of said disks has said plurality of scrubbing elements mounted in a substantially facing relationship to said plurality of scrubbing elements mounted on the reverse surface of another of said disks.

36(NEW). The pet chews of claim 1 wherein each said scrubbing element includes a nub terminated with a tip.

37 (NEW). The pet chews of claim 36 wherein said tip is conical.

38 (NEW). The pet chews of claim 36 wherein said nub is split into a plurality of coextensive tips.

39 (NEW). The pet chews of claim 38 wherein said nub and tips extend radially.